THE

Theatrical Observer:

AND

Daily Bills of the Play.

"Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice."—OTHELLO.

No. 2350. *Wednesday, June* 24, 1829. *Price* 1*d.*

"The Play's the thing!"—Ask for *Thomas's Observer.*

Covent Garden Theatre.

MESSRS. J. ISAACS, Blanchard, and Mears, provided plenty of amusement at this house last night, for their friends and patrons; it being the benefit of those useful, and meritorious actors. The performances were, *The Castle of Andalusia;* some scenes from *Richard the Third* by a precocious young gentleman, of the name of Phillips; a great variety of singing, and Dibdin's capital burlesque of *Don Giovanni; or, The Spectre on Horseback.* This was the first piece which introduced the exploits of *Giovanni* and *Leporello,* on the English stage, being produced by Dibdin at the Surrey, in three days after *Il Don Giovanni* was brought out at the King's Theatre in 1816.

Haymarket Theatre.

THE Drama of *The Two Friends* was performed here last night, for the first time this season; when Mr. Cooper resumed his station on these boards, in his original part of *Herbert.* This charming drama has lost none of its interest since last season, nor will it, while it continues to be acted in the same admirable manner: it was listened to throughout with the most breathless attention, only interrupted by fervent applause. Miss F. H. Kelly's *Elinor* is distinguished by a depth of passionate sentiment, and a general felicity of execution, that may rank it among the most perfect specimens of the histrionic art.—In the scene, where, by interrogating *Rose,* she discovers the nature of her feelings towards her supposed brother, her doubts, her fears, and subsequent agony at what she considers her guilty love, were depicted with a force and truth which could not be surpassed. Her acting throughout excited the greatest interest, and was frequently rewarded by loud applause. The *Ambrose,* of Farren, is also a most exquisite *morceau;* and if any thing could have heightened our opinion of Farren, it would have been his acting in this part. Mr. Webster played Mr. W. West's part of *Valentine,* and gave us no cause to be displeased with the exchange. *Lodgings for Single Gentlemen* was the second piece, succeeded by *The Clandestine Marriage,* which was excellently acted.

English Opera House.

THIS house will open for the season on Saturday night, with a strong company. Messrs. H. Phillips, Wood, Sapio, Wrench, and Keeley, Mesdames Kelly, Betts, Cawse, Goward, Gray, and a Madame Celini, are already engaged.

DRURY LANE.—There will be another Masquerade at this Theatre on Monday next, on the same splendid scale as the last; after which

we understand, the workmen will immediately commence re-embellishing this beautiful house in a style perfectly unique.

Sontag asked the *Corps de Ballet*, of the King's Theatre, to dance gratuitously at her Benefit, on Thursday last. The whole of them were struck *motionless* with the request, and, of course, refused.—We hear of "*dancing upon nothing*," and one of the dancers less polished in his modes of expression than the rest, replied, "he'd be *hang'd* if he would."

Ducrow, the Proprietor of Astley's Amphitheatre, and the famous equestrian, has taken the Pantheon, which, when Mr. Cundy's lease expires, will be opened as a Theatre, upon the same plan, and to as great an extent, as the present establishment, over Westminster Bridge.

A Negro Actor.—A Hull paper states that a well educated negro, named Keene, and styled in the play-bills the African Roscius, last week appeared, at the Hull Theatre, as *Othello*, and exhibited such a just and powerful conception of the part, expressed in frequent burst of deep, impassioned feeling, that he was heard throughout with breathless attention, only interrupted with frequent peals of plaudits. His voice and person are said to be good, and his action graceful and easy.

To the Editor of The Theatrical Observer.

Dear Mr. Editor, I address you from the Cigar Divan, King-street, Covent Garden, having just popt in to luxuriate on a capital cup of Coffee, and a true Havannah—beg pardon, hope I don't intrude—but will you excuse me—I have to mention, that I've arranged so as to rub shoulders with my friends, and the fashionable world, at one or other of the *Grand Lounges* about town.

On Monday, must take another peep at the two new views, at the Diorama, Regent's Park—was puzzled to decide which was the most beautiful, St. Peter's or the Village of Thiers—both exquisitely painted—the pictorial illusion complete—the water flowing, smoke ascending, sun shining—quite nature itself.—Had difficulty to persuade a fair lady next me, that we were really viewing merely pictures. Shall put off my journey to Italy, as I'm told, *sub rosa*, we shall have other views from that classic soil; and if as good as St. Peter's will satisfy me.

On Tuesday, I drop into the Exhibition of Sculpture, in Old Bond Street, to view the figures, life size, of Tam O'Shanter and Souter Johnny—work of a self-taught artist, James Thom—delighted beyond measure—fully expected to hear Tam's uproarious laugh—the expression so perfect; *pose* of figures admirable. Whoever has read Burns, (and who has not?) must see them.

On Wednesday, I step into the Horse Bazaar, Baker Street—inspect the magnificent Exhibition of Musical and Mechanical Automa—Musical Lady, Juvenile Artist, Rope Dancer, Magician, Walking Figure, a magnificent Vase, made by order of Napoleon, Birds, &c. In the afternoon, I qualify Mrs. P.'s discordant notes with some harmony divine, and may be found between 1 and 4 o'clock, at *The Apollonicon*; in St. Martin's Lane.

On Friday, I shall look in on Mr. Finn, in Regent Street, at his *Fancy Glass-working Exhibition*—an ingenious pretty Workshop. Afterwards, I drop in to examine *Miss Linwood's* curious Needle-Work, in Leicester Square.

Now having given you my week's perambulations, I'll kill an hour over one or two of eight Morning and Evening Papers at this aforesaid Divan, King Street—skim the Magazines, take a peep at a Chess match going on, whiff another Cigar, and then for the play—"the play's the thing"—but I intrude—beg pardon.

Your's, PAUL PRY

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Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

This Evening, the Opera of

Lionel and Clarissa.

Lionel, Mr WOOD,
Sir John Flowerdale.....Mr BARTLEY,
Jessamy, Mr GREEN,
Colonel Oldboy.....Mr FAWCETT,
Harman, Mr DURUSET,
Servant to Colonel Oldboy.....Mr MEARS,
Jenkins....Mr J. ISAACS,
Servants, Messrs. Mathews, Sutton, Grant, &c.
Antoine, Mr HEATH.
Lady Mary Oldboy.....Mrs DAVENPORT,
Clarissa, Miss HUGHES,
Jenny.....Miss GOWARD,
Diana, Miss FORDE.

To conclude with (29th time) a New Musical Tale of Romance called

The Devil's Elixir;

Or, the Shadowless Man.

Francesco,.....(*a Capuchin*).....Mr DIDDEAR,
Count Hermogen, (*his Brother*) Mr WOOD,
Gortzburg.....(*Demon of the Elixir*).....Mr O. SMITH,
Nicholas, (*the Bell Toller*) Mr KEELEY,
Page, Master WATSON, The Shadow King, Mr PURDAY,
Oldburg and Stormworg, (*his Agents*) Messrs. HENRY & TETT,
The Prior of the Silver Palm Tree Monastery, Mr TURNOUR,
Spirits of the Elixir, Domestics of the Count, Bridesmen, Maids, &c
The Lady Aurelia, Miss HUGHES, Ureka, Miss GOWARD

In Act I—A PAS DE TROIS,
By Mesdames BEDFORD, EGAN, and THOMASIN

To-morrow, Native Land, A Day after the Wedding, and Raising the Wind; being the Last Night of the Season.

Theatre Royal, Hay-Market.

This Evening, the Comedy of The

Way to Keep Him.

Sir Bashful Constant, Mr W. FARREN,
Sir Brilliant Fashion.....Mr VINING,
Lovemore, Mr COOPER,
William, Mr JOHNSON, Sideboard, Mr COVENEY
Mrs Lovemore, Mrs FAUCIT,
The Widow Belmour.....Miss F. H. KELLY,
Muslin, Mrs TAYLEURE, Maid, Mrs W. JOHNSON,
Lady Constant, Mrs ASHTON,
Mignionet, Miss C. CARR, Furnish, Mrs GALLOT.

After which, the Comic Piece in One Act, called

LODGINGS
For Single Gentlemen.

Captain Postlethwaite, Mr VINING,
Colonel Stanmore, Mr BRINDAL, Trusty, Mr WEBSTER,
Mrs Greville, Miss F. H. KELLY,
Maria, Mrs ASHTON, (*from the Theatre Royal, Bath*)
Mrs Prattle, Mrs GLOVER.

To conclude with the Farce of

Love Laughs at Locksmiths.

Captain Beldare, Mr VINING,
Vigil, Mr ANDREWS, Totterton, Mr WILLIAMS,
Risk, (first time,) Mr WEBSTER,
Solomon Lob.....Mr M. BARNETT,
Serjeant Dubb, Mr C. MORRIS,
Lydia..... Miss M. GLOVER.

To-morrow, The Young Quaker, Lodgings for Single Gentlemen, and Thirteen to the Dozen.